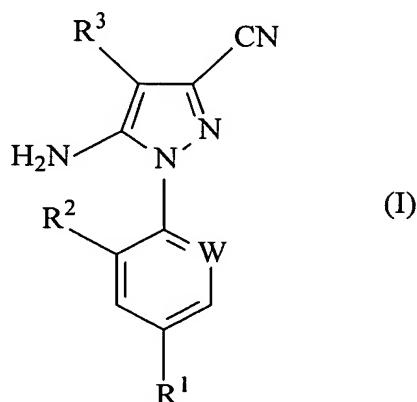


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound having the formula:



wherein:

$\text{W}$  is ~~nitrogen or~~  $-\text{CR}^4$ ;

$\text{R}^1$  is halogen, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  $\text{R}^5\text{S}(\text{O})_n-$  or  $-\text{SF}_5$ ;

$\text{R}^2$  is hydrogen or halogen;

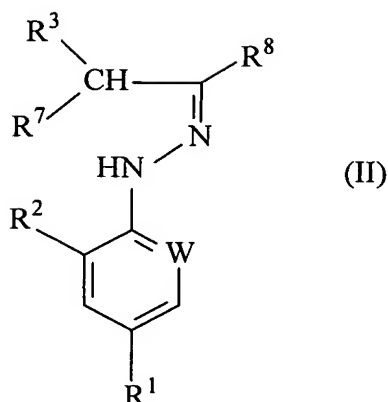
$\text{R}^3$  is hydrogen or  $\text{R}^6\text{S}(\text{O})_m-$ ;

$\text{R}^4$  is halogen;

each of  $\text{R}^5$  and  $\text{R}^6$  is alkyl or haloalkyl; and

each of  $m$  and  $n$  is 0, 1 or 2;

said process comprising reacting a compound having the formula:



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and W are as defined above, R<sup>7</sup> is a leaving group and R<sup>8</sup> is chlorine or bromine, with a cyanide salt.

2. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the cyanide salt is an alkali metal cyanide, an alkaline earth metal cyanide or ammonium cyanide.

3. (Original) A process according to Claim 2, wherein the cyanide salt is potassium cyanide or sodium cyanide.

4. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, which is conducted in a solvent selected from the group consisting of nitriles, amides, sulfoxides, ethers and alcohols, optionally in the presence of water.

5. (Original) A process according to Claim 4, wherein the solvent comprises acetonitrile, N-methylpyrrolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran or ethanol.

6. (Original) A process according to Claim 2, which is conducted in a solvent selected from the group consisting of nitriles, amides, sulfoxides, ethers and alcohols, optionally in the presence of water.

7. (Original) A process according to Claim 6, wherein the solvent comprises acetonitrile, N-methylpyrrolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran or ethanol.

8. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein from 2 to 5 molar equivalents of cyanide are employed.

9. (Original) A process according to Claim 2, wherein from 2 to 5 molar equivalents of cyanide are employed.

10. (Original) A process according to Claim 4, wherein from 2 to 5 molar equivalents of cyanide are employed.

11. (Original) A process according to Claim 6, wherein from 2 to 5 molar equivalents of cyanide are employed.

12. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the reaction temperature is from about -20°C to the reflux temperature of the solvent.

13. (Original) A process according to Claim 12, wherein the reaction temperature is from about 0°C to about 20°C.

14. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is chlorine or bromine.

15. (Original) A process according to Claim 2, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is chlorine or bromine.

16. (Original) A process according to Claim 9, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is chlorine or bromine.

17. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 1, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or  $-SF_5$ ;

~~W is  $CR[[^4;]]$~~

each of  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  is chlorine or bromine;

$R^3$  is hydrogen or  $R^6S(O)_m$ ;

$R^6$  is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl; and

each of  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine.

18. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 2, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or  $-SF_5$ ;

~~W is  $CR[[^4;]]$~~

each of  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  is chlorine or bromine;

$R^3$  is hydrogen or  $R^6S(O)_m$ ;

$R^6$  is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl; and

each of  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine.

19. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 4, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or  $-SF_5$ ;

~~W is  $CR[[^4;]]$~~

each of  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  is chlorine or bromine;

$R^3$  is hydrogen or  $R^6S(O)_m$ ;

$R^6$  is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl; and

each of  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine.

20. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 6, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or  $-SF_5$ ;

~~W is  $CR[[^4;]]$~~

each of  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  is chlorine or bromine;

$R^3$  is hydrogen or  $R^6S(O)_m$ ;

$R^6$  is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl; and

each of  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine.

21. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 8, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or  $-SF_5$ ;

~~W is~~  $CR[[^4;]]$

each of  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  is chlorine or bromine;

$R^3$  is hydrogen or  $R^6S(O)_m$ ;

$R^6$  is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl; and

each of  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine.

22. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 17, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl;

~~W is~~  $CR[[^4;]]$

each of  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine; and

$R^3$  is hydrogen.

23. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is:

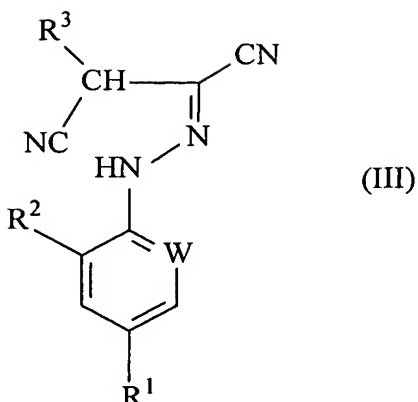
5-amino-3-cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)pyrazole;

5-amino-3-cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-trifluoromethylthiopyrazole;

5-amino-3-cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-trifluoromethylsulfinylpyrazole; or

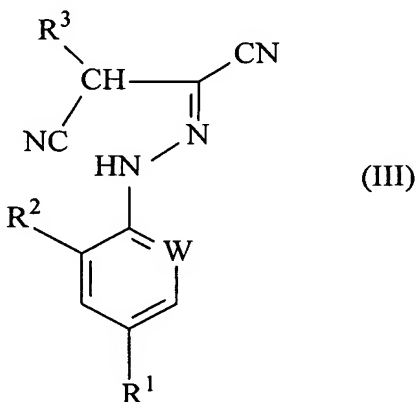
5-amino-3-cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4-ethylsulfinylpyrazole.

24. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the intermediate having the formula:



wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $W$  are as defined in Claim 1, which is formed in the course of the reaction, cyclizes under the conditions of the reaction to afford the corresponding compound of formula (I).

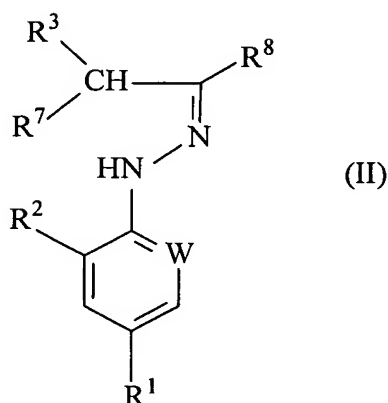
25. (Original) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the intermediate having the formula:



wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $W$  are as defined in Claim 1, which is formed in the course of the reaction, is cyclized in the presence of base to afford the corresponding compound of formula (I).

26.-39. (Canceled).

40. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula:



wherein:

W is ~~nitrogen or~~ -CR<sup>4</sup>;

R<sup>1</sup> is halogen, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, R<sup>5</sup>S(O)<sub>n</sub>- or -SF<sub>5</sub>;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen or halogen;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or R<sup>6</sup>S(O)<sub>m</sub>-;

R<sup>4</sup> is halogen;

each of R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is alkyl or haloalkyl;

R<sup>7</sup> is a leaving group;

R<sup>8</sup> is chlorine or bromine; and

each of m and n is 0, 1 or 2.

41. (Original) A compound according to Claim 40, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is chlorine or bromine.

42. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 40, wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or -SF<sub>5</sub>;

~~W is -CR<sup>4</sup>;~~

each of R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is chlorine or bromine;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or R<sup>6</sup>S(O)<sub>m</sub>-;

R<sup>6</sup> is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl; and

each of R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> is chlorine.

43. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 40, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl;

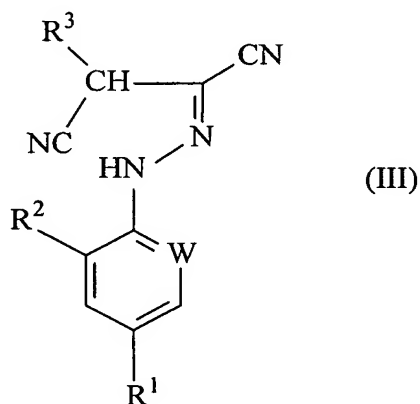
~~W is  $-CR[[^4;]]$~~

each of  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  is chlorine; and

$R^3$  is hydrogen.

44.-47. (Canceled).

48. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula:



wherein:

~~W is nitrogen or~~  $-CR^4$ ;

$R^1$  is halogen, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  $R^5S(O)_n$ - or  $-SF_5$ ;

$R^2$  is hydrogen or halogen;

$R^3$  is  $R^6S(O)_m$ ;

$R^4$  is halogen;

each of  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  is alkyl or haloalkyl;

$R^8$  is chlorine or bromine; and

each of m and n is 0, 1 or 2.

49. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 48, wherein:

$R^1$  is trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or  $-SF_5$ ;



~~W is~~ CR[<sup>4</sup>;]

each of R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is chlorine or bromine;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen or R<sup>6</sup>S(O)<sub>m</sub>-; and

R<sup>6</sup> is optionally halogenated methyl or ethyl.